

presently unmonitored, yet the funds for medical surveillance are exhausted.

The health consequences of the U.S. Nuclear Testing Program are greater than originally suspected. Additionally, radiation from the testing program reached every corner of the Marshall Islands. Medical surveillance should have been, and should be targeted at monitoring frequencies of all real and potential health consequences of the testing program in a longitudinal fashion. It is only in this manner that a complete understanding of health trends and associations of specific illness and radiation can be appreciated. An onsite national health surveillance system needs to be developed, implemented, and sustained to monitor all health consequences of the nuclear weapons testing program for the next fifty years.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY PROGRAM

Section 177 does not include an occupational safety program for Marshallese and other workers involved in environmental remediation or cleanup programs. As a result, Marshallese and other workers are exposed to occupational sources of radiation. Medical screening of past and present radiation workers is greatly needed to reduce the risk of further illness and claims.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Section 177 provides no means to educate Marshallese citizens in radiation related fields or to build local capacity to undertake research, archive relevant information, or educate the public about the consequences of the U.S. Nuclear Testing Program in the Marshall Islands.

NUCLEAR STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Section 177 does not provide programs for communities to develop strategies for safely containing radiation and living near radioactive waste storage areas.

The inadequacies presented in this petition "could not reasonably have been identified" in the 177 Agreement [Article IX] both because the full extent of the damages caused by the testing program had never been assessed and because scientific and medical developments since the settlement was consummated would have rendered any prior assessment not just manifestly inadequate, but null and void. What might have been acknowledged by the Government of the United States in 1983 as "damages resulting from the Nuclear Testing Program" is only a small portion of what such injuries and damages are now known to be.

The 67 atomic and thermonuclear weapons detonated in the Marshall Islands allowed the United States Government to achieve its aim of world peace through a deterrence policy. The Marshallese people subsidized this nuclear détente with their lands, health, lives, and future. "As an ally and strategic partner, the Republic of the Marshall Islands has paid a uniquely high price to define its national interest in a manner that also has been compatible with vital U.S. national interests" (H. Con. Res. 92—Sponsored by the Honorable Benjamin Gilman and the Honorable Don Young). As a strategic partner and friend of the United States, the RMI remains hopeful that Congress will take action to address the inadequacies of the 177 Agreement. The Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands looks forward to working closely with the Congress of the United States to respond to changed circumstances in the Marshall Islands.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted on September 12, 2000:

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1066: A bill to amend the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 to encourage the use of and research into agricultural best practices to improve the environment, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-407).

By Mr. LUGAR, from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, without amendment:

S. 1762: A bill to amend the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide cost share assistance for the rehabilitation of structural measures constructed as part of water resources projects previously funded by the Secretary under such Act or related laws (Rept. No. 106-408).

The following reports of committees were submitted today:

By Mrs. HUTCHISON, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 3041: An original bill making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes. (Rept. No. 106-409).

By Mr. BOND, from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 4635: A bill making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-410).

By Mr. ROTH, from the Committee on Finance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 1102: A bill to provide for pension reform, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 106-411).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. THOMPSON (for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. ROTH, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 3040. A bill to establish the Commission for the Comprehensive Study of Privacy Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 3041. An original bill making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 3042. A bill to protect citizens against becoming victims of Internet fraud, to provide stiff penalties against those who target senior citizens, and to educate senior citizens on how to avoid being victimized by Internet or telemarketing fraud; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 3043. A bill to close loopholes in the firearms laws which allow the unregulated man-

ufacture, assembly, shipment, or transportation of firearms or firearm parts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 3044. A bill to establish the Las Cienegas National Conservation Area in the State of Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE):

S. Res. 356. A resolution to authorize documentary production by the Select Committee on Intelligence; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. WELLSTONE):

S. Res. 357. A resolution welcoming Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Prime Minister of India, upon his first official visit to the United States, and for other purposes; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. JEFFORDS (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. DODD, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. ENZI, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. Con. Res. 135. A concurrent resolution recognizing the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act of 1975; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

Mr. THOMPSON (for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. ROTH, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 3040. A bill to establish the Commission for the Comprehensive Study of Privacy Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

PRIVACY COMMISSION ACT

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the "Privacy Commission Act." This legislation would establish a 17-member commission to examine the complex issue of personal privacy and to make recommendations to Congress as we consider how to map out privacy protections for the future. The Commission for the Comprehensive Study of Privacy Protection, whose members would include experts with a diversity of experiences, would look at the spectrum of privacy, from protecting citizens' health and financial information to ensuring their security on web sites.

As we all know, Americans are increasingly concerned that their personal information is not as secure as they once believed. A recent NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll found that